URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposed schemes for the development of various cities of Gujarat during the current year ;

(b) the funds allocated by Government in this regard ;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted any proposal to the Central Government to increase the said funds ; and

(d) if so, the comprehensive details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) The details of the scheme as also the funds allocated are as under ;

I. INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM TOWNS (IDSMT)

Under the IDSMT Scheme, 8 ongoing towns and 4 new towns were covered during the year 1999-2000. Rs. 365.17 lakhs was released for the ongoing towns and Rs. 88.00 lakhs were released for the new towns in the same period. Further, Rs. 6.01 lakhs was also released under CUISS for preparation of project reports.

II. ACCELERATED URBAN WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME (AUWSP)

Under the programme, 7 schemes at a project cost of Rs. 1395.28 lakhs have been sanctioned during the year 1999-2000.

III. URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCED BY HUDCO

4 urban infrastructure schemes in Gujarat were sanctioned for a total project cost of Rs. 31294.57 lakhs during 1999-2000. 4 schemes with a project cost of Rs. 87577.71 lakhs are under various stages of appraisal.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Private sector Involvement in water supply and sanitation

2584. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are working out with the State Governments a policy paper on the private sector's involvement in water supply and sanitation ;

(b) if so, whether it would qualitatively change the services to the

consumers ;

(c) whether there would be increased cost to the consumers ; and

(d) what precautionary measures would be taken for the better management by the private players and safeguard the interest of the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) Since water supply and sanitation are State subjects, it is for the State Governments to take a decision regarding private sector's involvement in water supply and sanitation. The Ministry of Urban Development is rendering all possible assistance to the State Governments to initiate the process of privatisation through policy formulation and exposure to international experience in this area. To sensitise the State Governments/Urban local Bodies, the Ministry organised a seminar on Private Sector Participation in water supply and sanitation on 7-8 February, 2000. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Urban Development is also stressing the State Governments to enhance the capacity of Urban Local Bodies by way of effective financial management and training inputs of various categories of staff to effectively deal with responsibilities of water supply and sanitation conservancy.

(b) One of the objectives of private sector's involvement is to improve the quality of services to the consumers.

(c) Special attention would need to be paid to increase tarrif in a gradual manner from the present level that is too low to cover the cost of operation and maintenance, as well as to provide for new investment.

(d) Independent regulators would be needed to monitor services, quality and tarrif levels of both public and private operators. Tarrifs would need to be so structured that lifeline supply would be available at minimum cost.

Unauthorised constructions in DDA Flats

2585. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the reasons for large scale unauthorised constructions/additions/alterations in DDA flats is that the DDA does not use the power of cancellation of allotment of flats where unauthorised constructions have taken place ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the grounds on which the cancellations of allotment of flats can be done by the D. D. A. ?